



U.S. Department of Justice

*United States Attorney
District of New Hampshire*

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MEDIA RELEASE
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PROJECT SAFE NEIGHBORHOODS

MANCHESTER MAN SENTENCED ON FEDERAL WEAPON CHARGE

Re: United States v. Steven MARIER

Concord, New Hampshire -- United States Attorney Tom Colantuono, Hudson Police Chief Richard Gendron, and Clifford Ellston, the Resident Agent in Charge of the New Hampshire Office of the U.S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, announced that **Steven MARIER**, 36, of Manchester, NH was sentenced on September 6, 2005 of federal weapon possession charges.

On April 27, 2005, MARIER, who had been previously convicted of felony drug distribution in Hillsborough County Superior Court in 1994, entered a guilty plea before U.S. District Judge Joseph A. DiClerico to an information charging him with being a convicted felon in possession of a Glock .40 calibre semi-automatic pistol outside the Red Arrow diner in Manchester on October 19, 2004.

At today's sentencing, Judge DiClerico imposed a sentence of **37 months** imprisonment followed by a 3-year period of supervised release during which MARIER's behavior will be monitored by the U.S. Department of Probation.

U.S. Attorney Colantuono stated: "This case exemplifies this Office's commitment to aggressive prosecution of the federal firearms laws as mandated by DOJ's "Project Safe Neighborhoods" initiative. Keeping firearms out of the hands of convicted drug felons is one of our main objectives. This office will continue to vigorously enforce the federal firearms laws as we expand the implementation of Project Safe Neighborhoods in the District of New Hampshire."

Project Safe Neighborhoods is a federal program to reduce gun violence in New Hampshire by aggressive investigation and prosecution of firearm offenders, education of the public and training of law enforcement officers about firearms laws.

The prosecution against MARIER, part of the Department of Justice's "Project Safe Neighborhoods" (PSN) initiative, resulted from an investigation conducted by the Manchester Police Department and the U.S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives. The prosecution is being handled by First Assistant United States Attorney Joseph N. Laplante.